

Message Text

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65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08

EUR-12 SY-05 ARAE-00 /082 W
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P R 271350Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2562

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PINS, PINR, ASEC, JM, CU

SUBJECT: JAMAICAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON AGEE ALLEGATIONS

1. SEPTEMBER 25 EDITION "JAMAICA DAILY NEWS" BANNER
HEADLINED REUTERS/CANA STORY "THOMPSON SAYS IN HAVANA INTERVIEW:
AGEE'S LIST NOT VERIFIED AS CIA." DATELINED HAVANA
SEPTEMBER 24 TEXT QUOTES THOMPSON AS SAYING "I HAVE
NOT BEEN IN A POSITION TO IDENTIFY ANY OF THE NAMES STATES
(BY AGEE) AS PART OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY." ABBREVIATED
VERSIONS OF SAME STORY CARRIED BY JBC RADIO AND TV
NEWS EVENING SEPTEMBER 24 AND MORNING SEPTEMBER 25.

2. SEPARATE STORY ON FRONT PAGE "DAILY NEWS" SUMMARIZES
AGEE'S ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING CIA AGENTS IN EMBASSY,
INCLUDING LIST OF FUNCTIONAL AND DIPLOMATIC TITLES, BUT
NO NAMES.

3. COMMENT: WE STRONGLY SUSPECT THOMPSON WAS
MISQUOTED AND THAT HE ACTUALLY COMMENTED THAT HE HAD
NOT BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY THAT ANY OF THE NAMED EMBASSY
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STAFF ARE PART OF THE CIA.

4. FOLLOWING ARE RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM REUTERS/CANA STORY.

5. BEGIN TEXT, HAVANA, SEPTEMBER 24. JAMAICA FOREIGN MINISTER DUDLEY THOMPSON SAID HERE TODAY THAT NONE OF THE ALLEGED AGENTS OF THE AMERICAN CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY MENTIONED BY MR. PHILIP AGEE AS WORKING IN JAMAICA HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AS MEMBERS OF THE US EMBASSY IN KINGSTON.

MR. AGEE, A FORMER CIA AGENT, LISTED LAST WEEK THE NAMES OF NINE ALLEGED CIA AGENTS WHO, HE SAID, WERE WORKING UNDER COVER OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY ON A PLAN TO DESTABILISE JAMAICA.

"I HAVE NOT BEEN IN A POSITION TO IDENTIFY ANY OF THE NAMES STATED AS PART OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY," MR. THOMPSON TOLD REUTERS.

THE JAMAICAN FOREIGN MINISTER FLEW HERE ON TUESDAY FOR AN INFORMAL VISIT AND IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE FOR HOME LATER TODAY.

ASKED WHETHER JAMAICA WOULD TAKE STEPS AGAINST CIA AGENTS WERE THEY TO BE IDENTIFIED, HE SAID "WE WOULD TAKE STRONG AND IMMEDIATE STEPS IF WE HAD ANY EVIDENCE OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. I COULD NOT ASK FOR ANY CIA AGENT TO BE REMOVED FROM MY COUNTRY, I COULD ONLY ASK THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE USED TO SUBVERT MY COUNTRY."

MR. THOMPSON HINTED THAT THE ALLEGED DESTABILISATION PLAN HAD BEEN AMONG THE POINTS RAISED DURING HIS CURRENT VISIT HERE. ASKED WHETHER HE HAD ASKED FOR ADVICE FROM THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT, HE REPLIED: "NO, NO, WE ARE TACKLING IT FAIRLY WELL OURSELVES."

ASKED ABOUT THE FORCES BEHIND DESTABILISATION, HE MENTIONED "WEALTHY JAMAICANS ABROAD, ANTI-CASTRO CUBAN EXILES WHO WOULD NOT LIKE TO SEE ANY COUNTRY WORKING TOGETHER WITH CUBA, AND OTHER ELEMENTS WHO WOULD FIND IT EASIER TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORK WITH A GOVERNMENT LESS FRIENDLY TOWARDS CUBA THAN OUR OWN.

"WHEN YOU JOIN THESE FORCES TOGETHER, YOU CAN FIND A DEFINITE PATTERN THAT EMERGED JUST AFTER JAMAICA TOOK ITS STAND OF PRINCIPLES ON THE ANGOLAN ISSUE," HE SAID. JAMAICA SUPPORTED PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO'S POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (MPLA) AND CUBA'S

MILITARY INTERVENTION ON ITS SIDE. END TEXT.
GERARD

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